

24 April 2019

C105036

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 19 February 2019, requesting information about beverage machines purchased since 2017. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

You requested the following:

What purchases have been made for beverage machines for Corrections staff by the Department of Corrections over the last 2 years (2017 and 2018 in full, and up to receipt of this OIA)

Please note we have interpreted 'beverage machines' to refer to iced drink machines purchased for staff as part of an initiative to improve their health and wellbeing during the summer months.

Corrections takes our duty of care and the health and safety of our more than 9,000 staff very seriously. During the summer of 2017/18, New Zealand experienced significantly higher temperatures than usually experienced, with Wellington recording its hottest January since records began in 1927. The heat caused significant discomfort for many people, including our staff.

At the time, the prisoner population was also increasing, exceeding 10,700 in February 2018 and peaking at 10,820 in March 2018.

Our staff worked tirelessly to manage an increased number of prisoners in hot and confined spaces and conditions. For example, at Mt Eden Corrections Facility where temperatures ranged between 27-29 degrees daily, over 1,000 prisoners were accommodated with no access to traditional external yards. The situation had the potential for significantly increased prisoner tension and aggression, and the real risk that prisoners or staff would be seriously hurt as a result.

Prisons can be volatile environments, with over 75 percent of the prisoner population having convictions for violence in their offending histories.

At the time, we took proactive steps to ensure the safety and wellbeing of staff and prisoners. These steps included:

- Ensuring that frontline staff have the ability to take breaks every few hours in a cool location, with the opportunity to safely remove their six kilogram stab resistant vests
- Providing staff with access to cold water, hand held fans and cold flannels to place on the backs of their necks.
- Considering opportunities to increase prisoners' time out of their cells
- Providing prisoners with increased access to cold showers
- Ensuring that all staff were aware of the signs of heat exhaustion and dehydration to ensure that they could intervene immediately if anyone was showing signs of being unwell.

These actions, combined with the efforts of our staff, were effective – with no major incidents occurring despite the conditions.

In preparation for the 2018/19 summer and the potential for a repeat of the previous summer's conditions, we provided crushed ice mixture (including electrolyte replacement mixtures) for staff to consume when required to reduce core body temperatures in excessive heat conditions, while minimising the risk of sodium depletion from dehydration.

Research shows that the machines offer an immediate and effective means of significantly reducing core body temperature in most situations, up to three times more effective when compared to drinking water. The machines offer an ongoing benefit by increasing safety and wellbeing, therefore improving staff performance during extreme hot weather.

Please list these purchases by machine type, the cost of each machine (including invoicing information), and the location of each machine

The following models were installed:

- SMSLUSH2EXPRESS (two bowl system – purchased new)
- SMSLUSH3EXPRESS (three bowl system – purchased new)
- SMRECONSLUSH2BOWL (two bowl system - reconditioned)
- SMRECONSLUSH3BOWL (three bowl system - reconditioned).

Corrections outsources our asset management and facilities management requirements to our third party provider, Downer EDF Limited. Under this contract, Downer provides day-to-day facilities support and services as well as delivering a sustainable asset management programme across our prisons and community sites. It is through this arrangement that the machines were purchased. Please see attached as Appendix One the invoice from Downer for the procurement of the machines.

Please see attached as Appendix Two a table showing the location, number of machines allocated and the number of staff at each prison (as at 31 March 2019). The number of machines supplied corresponds with the number of staff to ensure access at all times. There will be some variance due to site design.

Please also provide any correspondence relating to the purchase of beverage machines in this time frame, including but not limited to internal and external email communications.

Unfortunately, we cannot readily extract the requested information from our electronic records. In order to identify this type of specific information, we would be required to manually review a large number of emails.

In accordance with the OIA, we have considered whether to affix a charge or extend the time limit for responding. However, given the scale of the request we do not consider that this would be an appropriate use of our publicly funded resources. Therefore, this part of your request is declined under section 18(f) of the OIA, as the information cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

I trust the information provided is of assistance. Should you have any concerns with this response, I would encourage you to raise these with Corrections. Alternatively you are advised of your right to also raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman. Contact details are: Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely



Andy Milne
Acting National Commissioner



Downer NZ Limited - Utilities
PO Box 58740
Botany
Manukau 2163

GST Number: 57-116-676

TAX INVOICE

To: Department of Corrections
Private Bag 1206
WELLINGTON 6140

Invoice Number: FM1903789
Invoice Date: 23/02/2019
Due Date: 20/03/2019
Customer Number: DEP030

Customer Ref	Additional Ref	Downer Contract No	Downer Internal Reference
WBS C-00924-2-x	MSD10068372	20814	0062

Detail

PRG: x 193 Ice Slurry Machines

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If paying by Direct Credit please pay: Downer NZ Limited - Utilities
Bank ANZ A/C 01 1839 0005303 00

Nett	952,442.49
GST	142,866.37
Total	1,095,308.86

For enquiries please contact AR Shared Services
at 09 272 8941 or receivables@downer.co.nz

Remittance

Remittance		Please Detach this slip and return with your payment.
Invoice Number	FM1903789	Downer NZ Limited - Utilities PO Box 58740 Botany Manukau 2163

Appendix Two

Number of units, broken down by prison

Site	Number of units per prison	Number of staff per prison
Auckland Region Women's Corrections Facility	9	293
Auckland Prison	13	374
Mt Eden Corrections Facility	20	473
Northern Region Corrections Facility	12	314
Spring Hill Corrections Facility	19	439
Tongariro Prison	6	198
Waikeria Prison	15	443
Hawkes Bay Regional Prison	15	405
Manawatu Prison	6	172
Rimutaka Prison / Arohata Prison	26	725
Whanganui Prison	11	317
Rolleston Prison	5	185
Otago Corrections Facility	11	309
Christchurch Men's Prison	18	536
Christchurch Women's Prison	3	105
Invercargill Prison	4	110